

THE Shadow

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GARTH ENNIS • AARON CAMPBELL



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THE Shadow®

WRITTEN BY
GARTH ENNIS

ART BY
AARON CAMPBELL

COLORS BY
CARLOS LOPEZ

LETTERS BY
ROB STEEN

COVERS BY
ALEX ROSS (25%)
HOWARD CHAYKIN (25%)
JOHN CASSADAY (25%)
JAE LEE (25%)

SPECIAL THANKS TO
JERRY BIRENZ, ANTHONY TOLLIN AND MICHAEL USLAN

THE SHADOW CREATED BY
WALTER B. GIBSON

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Juan Collado, Chief Operating Officer
Joe Rybandt, Editor
Josh Johnson, Creative Director
Rich Young, Director Business Development
Jason Uilmeyer, Senior Designer
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Chris Cantano, Production Assistant



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BETWEEN NINETEEN THIRTY-ONE
AND NINETEEN FORTY-FIVE, JAPANESE
OCCUPATION FORCES KILLED
FIFTEEN MILLION CHINESE PEOPLE.





WHEREVER THE ARMIES
OF NIPPOON WENT, HORROR
FOLLOWED IN THEIR WAKE.

MASSACRE AND STARVATION WERE
THESE WEAPONS. THEY PAVED THE
ROADS AND STREETS WITH CORSES. MADE
RIVERS RUN WITH CORPSES. THE TEARS
OF HEAVEN ITSELF WERE NOT ENOUGH
TO WASH AWAY THE BLOOD THEY SPILT.

COUNTLESS MILLIONS OF
THEIR VICTIMS ENDED UP AS
REFUGEES. OTHERS WERE
ENSLAVED AND SENT AWAY.
NEVER TO SEE HOME OR
FAMILY AGAIN.

A FEW TOO MANY FOUND
THEMSELVES IN THE SINGULAR
HELL OF BIOLOGICAL
EXPERIMENTATION. EXPOSED TO
TYPHUS, ANTHRAX AND THE LIKE
BEFORE UNANNOUNCED
EXPLORATORY SURGERY.

THE SWIRL'S GREATER SHAME WAS SAVED FOR ITS ABUSE OF FEMALE CAPTIVES.

THE FORMERLY DEPOSED DAILY, HOURLY, BY THE MINUTE, SOLD TEN AND YOUNGER WERE DECLARED FAIR GAME. CRUDE ASSAULT GAVE WAY TO MUTILATION, THEN MUCH WORSE: FATHERS WERE FORCED TO RUT WITH DAUGHTERS, SONS WITH MOTHERS.

HOW MANY DIED IN SUCH ATROCITIES CANNOT BE COUNTED. HOW MANY WERE PRESSURED INTO SERVICE AS COMFORT WOMEN—FELD WHORES FOR THE TROOPS—IS A NUMBER LOST TO HISTORY.

WHEN THE TIME CAME, IMPERIAL JAPAN WOULD MAKE A FINE PARTNER FOR NAZI GERMANY.

I KNOW.

I KNOW THE STRANGE TIDES ON WHICH DESTINY ERGS AND FLOWS.

I KNOW THAT FATE SOMETIMES NEEDS A GUIDING HAND.

I KNOW HOW TO PLACE THE PIECES ON THE BOARD.

I KNOW WHAT HAS BEEN AND WHAT MUST BE.

I KNOW THE GREATER GAME.

FOR I KNOW WHAT
EVIL LURKS IN THE
HEARTS OF MEN.

THOSE WHO
WOULD SEE THE
MORNING STAND
ARISE! MY BUSINESS
IS WITH AKIRA ITO
AND TATED
KONDO!

I WANT
YOU, YOU PAIR
OF VERMIN!

PREPARE
YOURSELVES
FOR DEATH!

THE
Shadow
IN
THE FIRE OF
CREATION
PART ONE



WHO...

IS THAT... YOU KNOW...?

IF IT'S WHO I--

WHAT ARE WE PAYING YOU FOR, YOU RABBLE?
KILL HIM!



WHAT--?

YOU MISSED...?

HE WAS THERE. HE WAS RIGHT THERE.

OH NO... OH GOD... I THINK IT IS--



YOU--

NOT THEIR FAULT.

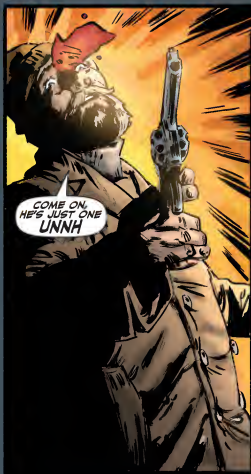
THEIR MINDS ARE CLOUDED.

N



DO NOT
MAKE THE LEAP
TO SCUM.







GO
HOME, PAUL
MULLER.



WORK HARD.

FEED YOUR
FAMILY.



AND YOU,
DEAD MAN: DO
NOT CROSS
YET.



STAY A
MOMENT.



SPEAK.



THERE
ISN'T GOING
TO BE A WAR,
DAPHNE...

LEAVE HER
ALONE, JONATHAN...
BUT DARLING, WHAT
ABOUT SPAIN? WHAT
ABOUT CHINA? IF
THERE'S A WAR IN THE
NEXT TWO OR THREE
YEARS--

NOT AFTER
LAST TIME. AND IF
THERE IS, EVEN F.D.R.
HAS ENOUGH BASIC
COMMON SENSE
TO KEEP US OUT
OF IT.

JONATHAN--!



BUT
WHAT IF YOU'RE
WRONG...?

HMM! THEN
WE BUY STOCK
IN CURTIS AND
BOEING.

ENOUGH,
DAPHNE. LESS
WAR, MORE
LUNCH.

MISTER
CRANSTON?





MISTER LANDERS, HOW NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN...

AND YOU, SIR, AND THIS IS PAT FINNEGAN, A PROTEGE OF MINE.

PAT--LAMONT CRANSTON.

PLEASD TO MEET YOU.



THE PLEASURE IS ALL MINE, MISTER FINNEGAN. AH, NICOLAS...

JUST COFFEE FOR US.

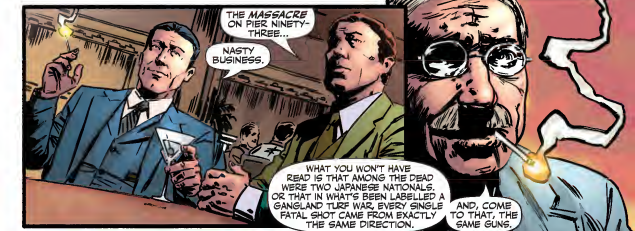
NOT SO FOR MYSELF. THANK YOU.



SO HOW IS WASHINGTON?

QUIET, VERY QUIET, IN COMPARISON WITH THE NEW YORK WATERFRONT.

YOU READ ABOUT THE INCIDENT ON PIER NINETY-THREE LAST NIGHT?



THE MASSACRE ON PIER NINETY-THREE...

NASTY BUSINESS.

WHAT YOU WON'T HAVE READ IS THAT AMONG THE DEAD WERE TWO JAPANESE NATIONALS. OR THAT IN WHAT'S BEEN LABELLED A GANGLAND TURF WAR, EVERY SINGLE FATAL SHOT CAME FROM EXACTLY THE SAME DIRECTION.

AND, COME TO THAT, THE SAME GUN.

FANCY THAT...

THE PAIR WERE LIEUTENANTS ITO AND KONDO OF JAPANESE ARMY INTELLIGENCE, MORE OR LESS THE COUNTERPART OF MY OWN DEPARTMENT.

THEY ACTUALLY CAME HERE THREE DAYS AGO, AND HAVING ENGAGED SOME OF THE LOCAL TALENT WERE ABOUT TO FORCIBLY BOARD THE LADY HUDSON-KINAHAN, NEWLY ARRIVED FROM FREETOWN.

WHICH FROM THEIR POINT OF VIEW WOULD HAVE BEEN SOMETHING OF A WASTED EFFORT. BECAUSE—

WHAT LIES IN THE HOLDS OF THE LADY HUDSON-KINAHAN IS WORTHLESS.

AS CONFIRMED BY OUR PEOPLE THIS MORNING. WELL, YOU TOLD US SO.

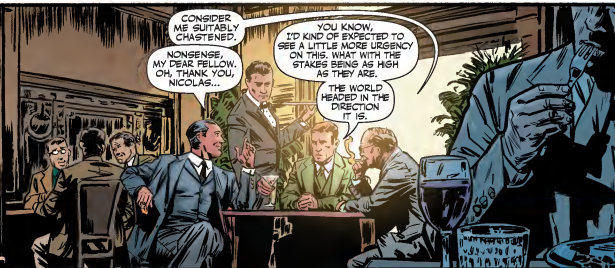
OKAY, HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT, MISTER? HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO SKIP A PAGE AHEAD OF UNCLE SAM?

PAT...

NO, I WANT TO KNOW HOW MISTER CRANSTON—

I HAVE A CERTAIN DEGREE OF SPECIALIST KNOWLEDGE WHEN IT COMES TO THE ORIENT AND HER BOUNTIES, MISTER FINNEGAN. PUT IT DOWN TO MISSPENT YOUTH.

AND WHEN I FIRST VOLUNTEERED MY SERVICES TO MISTER LANDERS SOME MONTHS AGO, I DID INDEED WARN HIM THAT WHAT HE SOUGHT LAY RATHER FURTHER EAST THAN SIERRA LEONE.



CONSIDER ME SUITABLY CHASTENED.

NONSENSE, MY DEAR FELLOW. OH, THANK YOU, NICOLAS...

YOU KNOW, I'D KIND OF EXPECTED TO SEE A LITTLE MORE URGENCY ON THIS. WHAT WITH THE STAKES BEING AS HIGH AS THEY ARE.

THE WORLD HEADED IN THE DIRECTION IT IS.



A FAIR POINT. WELL, IF THE MOUNTAIN WON'T COME TO MOHAMMED...

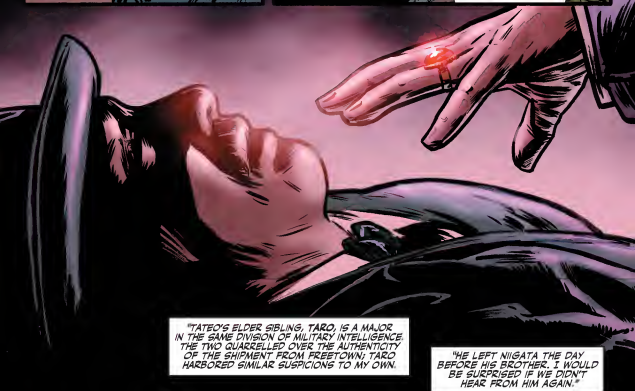
QUITE. I'LL MAKE MY OWN ARRANGEMENTS IN THAT REGARD.



WE'RE GOING AFTER IT...?

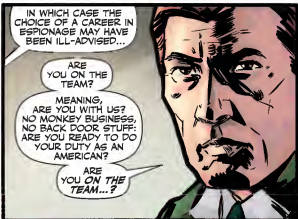
WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE?

ONE LAST THING YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF. I KNOW THE KONDO BROTHERS OF OLD.

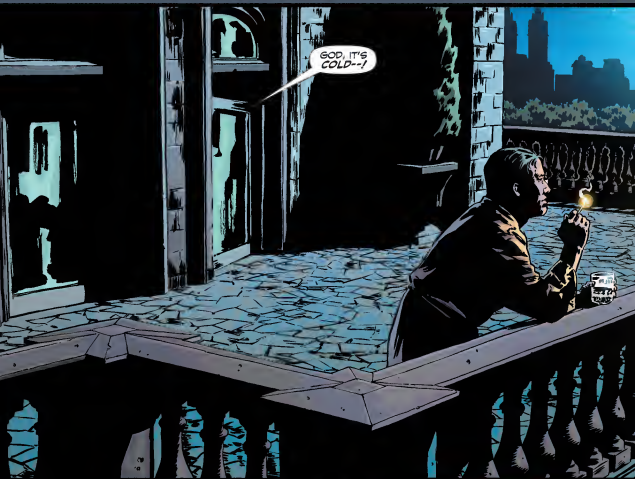


"TATEO'S ELDER SIBLING, TARO, IS A MAJOR IN THE SAME DIVISION OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. THE TWO QUARRELLED OVER THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE SHIPMENT FROM FREETOWN; TARO HARBORED SIMILAR SUSPICIONS TO MY OWN.

"HE LEFT NIIGATA THE DAY BEFORE HIS BROTHER. I WOULD BE SURPRISED IF WE DIDN'T HEAR FROM HIM AGAIN."







GOD, IT'S
COLD--!



AREN'T YOU
COLD?

PROBABLY.

I WAS
SHIVERING SO
HARD I SHOOK
MYSELF AWAKE.
COULDN'T YOU AT
LEAST HAVE SHUT
THE DOOR BEHIND
YOU...?



SELFISH
BASTARD.

GIVE ME
SOME OF
THAT.



YOUR
SKIN'S LIKE
ICE.
MM-HM.

LIKE
THE DEAD.

CAN
YOU SEE THE
FUTURE?



WITH EVERYTHING
YOU MENTIONED,
THE--

I'M
PRIVY TO
GLIMPSES.
SHARDS.



PEOPLE ARE DIFFICULT. CHILDREN
ARE EASIEST. THEY HAVEN'T THE
SPIRITUAL PUG WE'VE ACCUMULATED:
TRACING THE SOUL TO THE END
OF ITS PATH IS SIMPLE ENOUGH.

ADULTS... SOMETIMES.
SHOCK AND TRAUMA CAN
WORK WONDERS.



AS TO THE
REST, THE GRAND
EVENTS--

CAN YOU SEE
WHAT HAPPENS
TO US?

MEANING YOU
AND ME...



I KNOW
WHAT YOU MEAN,
MISS LANE.

WHICH
IS ALL THE
PREDICTION
I NEED.

THANK YOU.



I HAVEN'T
THE SLIGHTEST
IDEA WHY I
STICK--

GROW UP.

"YOU KNOW THE WEED OF
CRIME BEARS BITTER FRUIT.


"BEARS PUS AND
POISON. TANTS
THE WORLD, MAKES
GOD A LIE.

"YOU CHOSE TO SERVE A MASTER
WHO WOULD STAMP IT BACK INTO THE
DIRT: YOU SWORE AN OATH TO DO HIS
BIDDING. YOU ARE HIS AGENT AND HIS
SPY, AND YET YOUR HANDS ARE
STAINED WITH VERY LITTLE BLOOD...

"IN YOUR HEART, YOU ARE
THANKFUL HE IS THERE TO DO
THE BUTCHER-WORK."



I THINK
I'VE DONE MY
SHARE...



YOU'VE DONE
NO MORE NOR
LESS THAN VINCENT,
SHREVNITZ AND
THE REST.

MAKE NO
MISTAKE: YOU
ARE A MATCHSTICK
SET NEXT TO AN
INCINERATOR.



DO NOT
FLIRT WITH FATE,
MISS LANE.

IT IS
NO GENTLE
LOVER.



YOU'RE
RIGHT, THE
NIGHT IS VERY
COLD.

COMING?



ARE
YOU GOING TO
BE THE SHADOW
FOREVER?



TO BE CONTINUED